

August  
2017

# MARINE BAND

America's Oldest and Foremost  
Military Symphonic Band

The Marine Band Library recently received several new historical acquisitions, including this 1961 tour poster. Full story on page 2.

SAT. OCT. 7<sup>th</sup>

Rotary Club of Pearl River, NY  
Rockland State Hospital Auditorium

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# MARINE DIXIELAND BAND PERFORMS PORGY AND BESS

BY GUNNERY SGT. BRIAN RUST

In 1935, George Gershwin's folk opera *Porgy and Bess* premiered in Boston before moving to Broadway in New York City. Despite its initial lukewarm reception, the opera eventually gained new popularity and is now one of the best-known and most frequently performed operas in the world.

Much of Gershwin's original music from the opera, most notably the popular "Summertime," has been recorded and arranged hundreds of times in different styles by various artists, especially in the style of Dixieland, which is a type of jazz based on the music that developed in New Orleans at the beginning of the 20th century. It is in that style that the Marine Dixieland Band will perform several selections from *Porgy and Bess* during two outdoor summer concerts at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 23 on the west terrace of the U.S. Capitol and at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 24, in the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park in Glen Echo, Md.

"Gershwin was heavily influenced by the 1920s Dixieland styles," said trumpeter Master Sgt. Daniel Orban, also leader of the Marine Dixieland Band. "His use of spirituals and gospel styles were the main ingredient in his opera and makes his score a ripe target for Dixieland arrangements."

*Porgy and Bess* is considered one of the most famous and most successful American operas from the 20th century, as well as somewhat controversial at the time primarily due to its racially charged themes and cast of classically trained African-American singers. The opera is based on DuBose Heyward's play "Porgy," itself an adaptation of his novel of the same name. After Gershwin read "Porgy," he proposed a collaboration with Heyward to create an operatic version. While all of the music is original and does not include traditional folk songs, Gershwin explained in a 1935 article in *The New York Times* why he called it a "folk opera."

*Porgy and Bess* is a folk tale. Its people naturally would sing folk music. When I first began work on the music I decided against the use of original folk material because I wanted the music to be all of one piece. Therefore I wrote my own spirituals and folksongs. But they are still folk music – and therefore, being in operatic form, *Porgy and Bess* becomes a folk opera.

The story is set in 1930s Charleston, S.C., in the area known as Catfish Row, and follows the tragic love story of the disabled beggar Porgy and the beautiful Bess, who longs to flee from her life of crime and poor choices.

While the Marine Dixieland Band won't perform the entire opera during the concerts, the group will perform arrangements of a few selections by Dixieland cornetist Jim Cullum, leader of the Jim Cullum Jazz Band. His band arranged the entire opera in Dixieland style, including narration.

Regarding the arrangement, Orban said: "Cullums' work, along with his colleagues, is some of the most virtuosic Dixieland playing I have ever heard."

The concert selections include "My Man's Gone Now," featuring saxophonist Gunnery Sgt. Gregory Ridlington on clarinet; "Oh, Dere's Somebody Knockin' at De Do;" and the ever popular "Summertime." "Summertime" and "My Man's Gone Now" both have the cool, laid back feel of sitting on a porch in 1920s New Orleans enjoying a beautiful summer night, while "Oh, Dere's Somebody Knockin' at De Do" has the feel of a folk spiritual that will make one want to tap their toes or get up and dance. All three works capture the wonderful melodies of Gershwin's original tunes while showcasing Dixieland at its best.

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*The Marine Dixieland Band will perform music from George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, as well as popular hits by Louis Armstrong, on Aug. 23 & 24, at the U.S. Capitol and Glen Echo Park.*



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Prior to the *Porgy and Bess* selections, the band will perform a set of Dixieland standards made popular by “Satchmo” himself, Louis Armstrong, including the composition “Two Deuces” by Lil Hardin Armstrong, Louis Armstrong’s second wife. To her credit, many of “Satchmo’s” Hot Five and Hot Seven recordings were written by Lil. Other works in the set include Jack Palmer and Spencer Williams’ “I Found a New Baby;” Michael Edwards’ “Once in a While;” and Louis Armstrong’s own work “Swing That Music.”

“Dixieland music is America’s contribution to the arts, laying a foundation for popular music in the 20th century.”

—MASTER SGT. DANIEL ORBAN

“Dixieland music is America’s contribution to the arts, laying a foundation for popular music in the 20th century,” Orban explained. “New Orleans was an important global port and the center where many cultures met. The byproduct of multicultural music was born there as Dixieland. I enjoy playing this style because, as a performer, you can express so many emotions like happiness, sorrow, loss, and freedom.”

Along with Orban and Ridlington, the Marine Dixieland Band includes guitarist Master Sgt. Alan Prather, trombonist Gunnery Sgt. Ryan McGeorge, tuba player Master Gunnery Sgt. John Cradler, pianist Gunnery Sgt. Russell Wilson, and drummer Master Sgt. Dave Murray.

*Both concerts are free and no tickets are required. Program is subject to change. Inclement weather cancellations will be made by 6 p.m. the night of the concert and updated on the Marine Band webpage and social media. 🎺*

*Marine Dixieland Band group leader and trumpeter, Master Sgt. Daniel Orban, is excited to showcase great works of Dixieland music.*



## NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

*by Master Sgt. Amanda Simmons*

The Marine Band Library and Archives is one of the nation’s oldest and largest performing music libraries, with holdings exceeding 100,000 music titles for band, orchestra, chamber ensembles, dance band, and piano. Some of this music dates back to 1860, but there are more historic holdings than just these scores. The repository is host to a number of important artifacts, including those in the collection of former Director John Philip Sousa. This spring, three new items were added to the archives.

## A NOTE FROM THE GRAND OLD MAN

The Library recently received a collection of letters that belonged to former Marine Band Leader Antonio Pons. He enlisted in the Marine Corps as a musician on Aug. 21, 1838 and served as Fife Major from 1842–46 and 1850–54. He served as 10th Leader/Drum Major from 1843–44, and 12th Leader/Drum Major from 1846–48. There is little documentation about the Marine Band leadership during the first 75 years of the organization, therefore this acquisition has already become a valuable research tool.

“These letters are a wonderful resource and help fill in gaps of knowledge regarding one of our early directors,” said Chief Librarian Master Gunnery Sgt. Jane Cross. “One of the oldest letters is dated April 1, 1828. The location given is Port Mahon, Spain, the place where Antonio Pons left to come to the U.S. The letter identifies him as a musician aboard the USS Constitution and states that he has served two years on the ship, conducting himself in a ‘manner deserving the attention of the American squadron.’”

The librarians also discovered that in September 1836, Pons had been aboard the USS United States in the Mediterranean for two years, first as a musician, and then as the captain’s steward. Captain Wilkinson highly recommended his musicianship, conduct, and mechanical abilities.

“One of the more fascinating letters is one signed by then-Commandant of the Marine Corps Brigadier General Archibald Henderson on April 1, 1843,” notes Cross. “This was an order for Fife Major Pons to proceed to Baltimore to select ‘suitable musical instruments for the band.’”

Henderson was the longest serving Commandant of the Marine Corps and is often referred to as the “Grand old man of the Marine Corps.”

Also found in the papers is a pardon from President Andrew Johnson (May 27, 1868) of Antonio Pons Jr., for his service in the Confederate Army. The younger Pons served

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in the U.S. Navy from 1854-57, but was discharged due to a chronic illness. He enlisted in the Confederate Army on April 20, 1861 and was mustered out Sept. 2, 1861, possibly due to the same illness.

Yvonne Engle-Childs of California bequeathed the papers to the Smithsonian in her will, but the Smithsonian recommended to the executor that the Marine Band would be a better home. The executor agreed, and the papers arrived in the Marine Band Library in June 2017. Engle-Childs was the great-great-granddaughter of Antonio Pons, through Pons' son Antonio Jr.

### MARINE BAND: AMERICA'S OLDEST AND FOREMOST MILITARY SYMPHONIC BAND

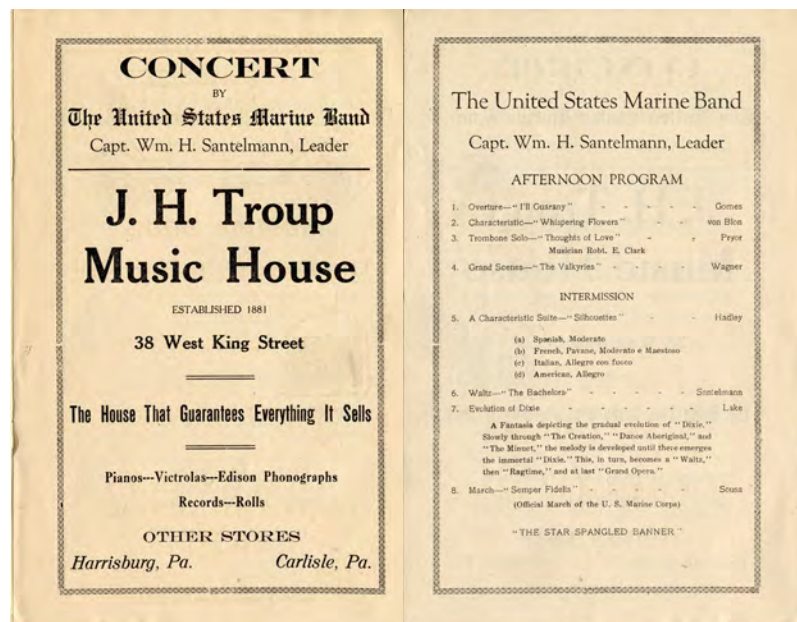
In June 2017 the Marine Band Library received a donation of tour log books from Loras Schissel, Senior Acquisitions Specialist at the Library of Congress. These tour logs (pictured bottom right) cover the years 1920-46 and belonged to former Marine Band tour director Clarence Cappel.

"This little book is a wonderful resource for researchers," explains Marine Band Historian Gunnery Sgt. Kira Wharton. "All the pertinent information regarding each tour including the cities we visited, transportation details, programs, directors, and soloists is all in one neatly typed little book."

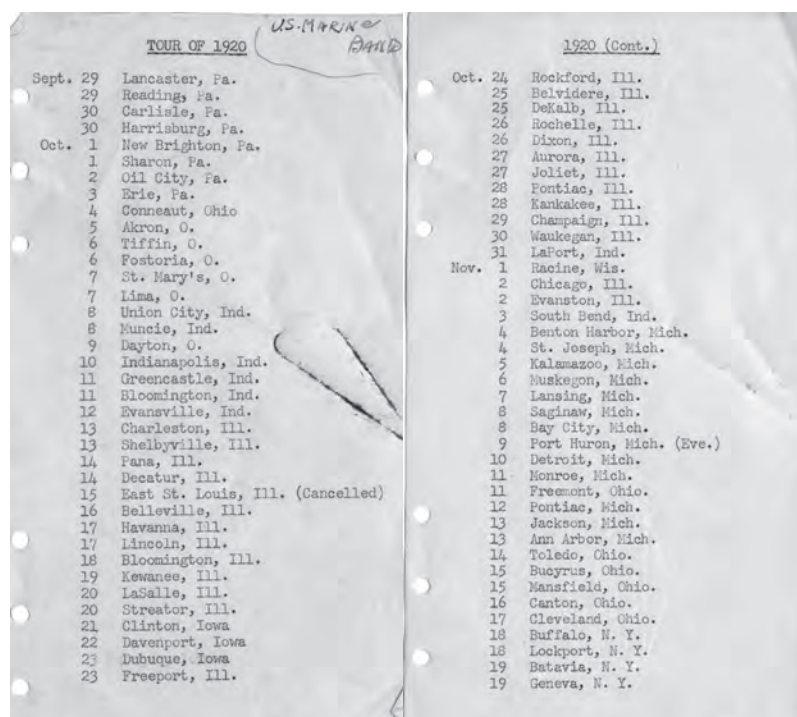
Cappel was the tour director from 1935-47. Following his death, his wife Helen Ware, a violinist, assumed the duties of the Marine Band tour director in 1948. The Marine Band used civilian tour operators since John Philip Sousa's first tour in 1891. Today National Tour Director William Perry works for the Office of U.S. Marine Corps Communication.

The first log included in the collection is from 1920, with the route beginning in Lancaster, Pa., the same city where the Marine Band will begin its 2017 tour. The 1920 tour was the first since 1916 due to World War I. The band was under the direction of Captain William H. Santelmann and the soloists were Taylor Branson, Fritz Mueller, Gerold Schon, Henry Stephan, Clayton Lindsay, Emil Rada, Frank Wiblitzhowser, Arthur Witcomb, Robert Clark, and Peter Hazes. Why so many soloists? During this period, the Marine Band performed two concerts a day in each city. The first concert was usually a matinee and often included school groups, followed by an evening concert.

The log book was not the only tour related item donated this spring. In Fall 2016, Steven Kaplan of New City, N.Y., contacted the Marine Band about donating a tour poster. The poster (pictured on cover), which he found in an attic, was from the Oct. 7, 1961, tour concert in the neighboring town of Pearl River, N.Y.



Program from a 1920 Marine Band tour concert in Lancaster, Pa. The Marine Band returns to Lancaster on Oct. 1, 2017, for the first concert of its 31-day National Concert Tour to the Northeast.



Marine Band tour log book entries from the band's 1920 National Concert Tour. The log books belonged to former Marine Band tour director Clarence Cappel and were recently donated to the Marine Band Library by Library of Congress Senior Acquisitions Specialist Loras Schissel.

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*Tour soloists for the Marine Band's 1920 National Tour. Back row (L to R): Clayton Lindsay, Emil Rada, Frank Wiblitzhowser, Arthur Witcomb, Robert Clark, Peter Hazes; Front row (L to R): Taylor Branson, Fritz Mueller, Gerold Schon, Henry Stephan.*

"My parents were living in Florida and were aging, so we bought the house next to ours in New York for them to be closer to the family," Kaplan recalls. "When we started the house renovation, we found the poster lying on the attic floor. We couldn't locate the former owner, so it remained in our house for a few years. Then I saw the Marine Band performing on TV and thought, hey they are still around, what better home for the poster."

The 1961 tour began on Sept. 17 in Kennett Square, Pa., and ended on Nov. 18 in Red Lion, Pa. On Oct. 7, the band performed two concerts at Rockland State Hospital Auditorium, in Pearl River, N.Y. Lieutenant Col. Albert Schoepper conducted the band in Felix Mendelssohn's Overture for Band, Morton Gould's Cowboy Rhapsody, a George Gershwin medley, and Sousa marches. One of the featured soloists that night was Gunnery Sgt. James Erdman performing Gardell Simons' "Atlantic Zephyrs."

Have a piece of Marine Band memorabilia that you'd like to donate? Please reach out to the Marine Band Public Affairs Office at [marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil](mailto:marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil). 🇺🇸

## PHOTO GALLERY



On June 14, 2017, the Marine Band participated in the funeral for World War II casualty Pfc. Larry R. Roberts, USMC. In June 2015, a non-governmental organization, History Flight, Inc., notified the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) that they discovered a burial site on Betio Island and recovered the remains of what they believed were 35 U.S. Marines. Roberts' remains were returned to the United States and buried at Arlington National Cemetery with military honors. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Gunnery Sgt. Rachel Ghadiali/released)



On June 30, 2017, Secretary of Defense James Mattis attended the Evening Parade as the invited guest of honor by Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Robert B. Neller and Commanding Officer of Marine Barracks Washington Col. Tyler J. Zagurski at Marine Barracks Washington in Washington, D.C. (DoD photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Amber I. Smith)



On June 28, 2017, members of the Marine Band supported a wreath-laying ceremony in honor of the Marines who fought in the Korean War. President Moon Jae-in of the Republic of Korea honored the Marines at the Korean War Chosin Monument at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. In 1950, President Moon's parents were able to flee to South Korea after the 1st Marine Division drove the enemy back. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Gunnery Sgt. Rachel Ghadiali/released)



On July 25, 2017, the Marine Band performed the National Anthem for Marine Day at Nationals Park in Washington, D.C. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Master Sgt. Amanda Simmons/released)



# FEATURED PROGRAMS

## MARINE BAND

**8 PM | Wednesday & Thursday, Aug. 2-3**

**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

*Maj. Michelle A. Rakers, conducting*

Morton Gould/trans. Lang  
"American Salute"

John Williams/trans. Lavender  
Flight to Neverland from *Hook*

Joseph Horowitz/arr. Norman  
Con brio from Clarinet Sonatina  
*Staff Sgt. Meaghan Kawaller, clarinet soloist*

John Williams/arr. Lavender  
Hymn to the Fallen from *Saving Private Ryan*

Percy Grainger/ed. Rogers  
Children's March, "Over the Hills and Far Away"

Stephen Sondheim/arr. Bulla\*  
"Not While I'm Around" from *Sweeney Todd*  
and "You (I) Could Drive a Person Crazy" from  
*Company*  
*Gunnery Sgt. Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano*

John Philip Sousa\*  
Mother Hubbard March

## MARINE BAND

**8 PM | Wednesday, Aug. 9**

**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

**8 PM | Thursday, Aug. 10**

**Sylvan Theater**

*Capt. Ryan J. Nowlin, conducting*

John Philip Sousa\*  
March, "El Capitan"

Percy E. Fletcher/trans. Karrick  
*Vanity Fair*

Herman Bellstedt/arr. Hunsberger\*  
"Napoli"  
*Staff Sgt. Anthony Bellino, cornet soloist*

Aaron Copland/trans. Singleton  
"The Promise of Living" from *The Tender Land*

Karl L. King  
March, "Barnum and Bailey's Favorite"

Stephen Flaherty/lyrics Ahrens/arr. Nowlin\*  
"Make Them Hear You" from *Ragtime: An American Story*  
*Master Sgt. Kevin Bennear, baritone*

John Williams/trans. Bocook  
*The Cowboys Overture*

## MARINE BAND

**8 PM | Wednesday, Aug. 16**

**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

**8 PM | Thursday, Aug. 17**

**Sylvan Theater**

*Maj. Michelle A. Rakers, conducting*

Carl Maria von Weber/trans. D. Patterson\*  
Jubel Overture, J. 245

Bedrich Smetana/trans. Kline\*  
Three Dances from *The Bartered Bride*

Richard Strauss/trans. Boyd  
Horn Concerto No. 1 in E-flat, Opus 11  
*Staff Sgt. Cecilia Buettgen, soloist*

Frank Ticheli  
*An American Elegy*

Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne/arr. Ninmer\*  
"10,432 Sheep" from *The West Point Story*  
*Gunnery Sgt. Sara Sheffield, mezzo-soprano*

John Philip Sousa\*  
March, "The Charlatan"

## MARINE DIXIELAND BAND

**8 PM | Wednesday, Aug. 23**

**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

**7:30 PM | Thursday, Aug. 24**

**Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, MD**

Jack Palmer and Spencer Williams  
"I Found a New Baby"

Lil Hardin Armstrong  
"Two Deuces"

Michael Edwards/lyrics Green  
"Once in a While"

Louis Armstrong  
"Swing That Music"

George Gershwin/lyrics Heyward &  
Ira Gershwin  
Selections from *Porgy and Bess*

## MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

**7:30 PM | Saturday, Aug. 26**

**Schlesinger Concert Hall, NOVA,  
Alexandria, VA**

*Maj. Michelle A. Rakers, conducting*

Niels Gade  
Novellette No. 2, Opus 58

Johann Baptist Georg Neruda  
Concerto in E-flat for Trumpet and Strings  
*Master Sgt. Michael Mergen, soloist*

Edvard Grieg  
Suite for Strings, Opus 40, *From Holberg's Time*

## MARINE BAND

**8 PM | Wednesday & Thursday, Aug. 30-31**

**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

*Lieutenant Col. Jason K. Fettig, conducting*

John Philip Sousa\*  
March, "Imperial Edward"

Giancarlo Castro d'Addona  
Grand Fanfare

Paul Taffanel/trans. D. Patterson\*  
Fantasie on *Der Freischütz*  
*Staff Sgt. Heather Zenobia, flute soloist*

Wayne Quin  
*A Solemn Place*

Onsby Rose  
"Heroes from the Sea"

arranged by Stephen Bulla\*  
Irish Songs, Set No. 2

Charles Ives/trans. Elkus  
Finale from Symphony No. 2

All concerts are free. Schedule is subject to change. For information,  
call (202) 433-4011 or visit [www.marineband.marines.mil](http://www.marineband.marines.mil).

\*Member, U.S. Marine Band

## BAND MEMBER NEWS

### VACANCIES



Click on each image above for specific details and the application packet of the specific audition. For more information contact the Marine Band Operations Officer at [marineband.operations@usmc.mil](mailto:marineband.operations@usmc.mil) or (202) 433-5714.

### STAFF LINES



#### **Gunnery Sgt. David Jenkins**

#### **POSITION IN BAND**

Saxophone/  
Tour Coordinator

#### **PETS**

A cat, Hendrix, who I'm pretty sure is the reigning Fetch champion of felines. (He's gotta be part dog!)

#### **EDUCATION**

BM in Education and BM in Performance, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; MM in Performance, Arizona State University

#### **JOINED THE BAND**

November 2004

#### **SELF-PORTRAIT**

Witty, articulate, welcoming, over-thinker (with a dash of sarcasm)

#### **FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO**

So...is this gonna take long?

#### **GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT**

Winning this job

#### **MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND**

After growing up as a long-suffering Red Sox fan, my first White House job after joining the band had me sitting about 15 yards from the World Series Champs and trophy

#### **INSPIRATION**

Van Gogh, Modern Sculpture, Nature, Silence, Frank Lloyd Wright. All of the great musicians and teachers I've had the privilege of collaborating with throughout my life. But particularly the support and influence of my parents, who are both outstanding musicians and educators.

#### **FAVORITE MOVIE**

"The Big Lebowski"

#### **WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE**

I've been told a younger Dustin Hoffman...we both have prominent noses.

#### **BEST-KEPT SECRET**

I don't consciously keep this from anyone, but most people don't know that I am an FCC licensed disc jockey.

#### **BOOKS AT BEDSIDE**

Recent biographies of musicians/artists I admire.

#### **FAVORITE FOODS**

Sandwiches and pizza

#### **HOBBIES**

Roasting Coffee, following stand-up comedy

#### **BAD HABITS**

Procrastinating

#### **LUXURY DEFINED**

Sleeping until 7 or 8 (I'm a bit of an insomniac).

#### **THREE THINGS ALWAYS FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR**

Too many jars of mustard, eggs, and hummus

#### **PET PEEVES**

Traffic and picky eaters

#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE THE BAND**

Visiting Instructor of Saxophone at UMASS; Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra

#### **MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHERS**

Lynn Klock, Professor of Saxophone Emeritus, UMASS

#### **LAST WORDS**

I guess it didn't take that long after all...

#### **FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC**

Maurice Ravel "String Quartet in F"

#### **PLACE YOU'D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED**

Burlington, Vt., in October, please.

#### **WALTER MITTY FANTASY**

Rock star for a night – preferably, playing drums with Led Zeppelin.

Q. WHAT IS A TOUR COORDINATOR?

A. Marine Band Tour Coordinators have the responsibility of choosing and monitoring travel routes, managing the daily routine of the band while on tour, managing hotel selection and coordination, and managing logistics of concert sites.

## BAND MEMBER NEWS

### NEW MEMBER



**Trumpeter/cornetist Staff Sergeant Chris Larios** joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in May 2017. Larios began his musical instruction on trumpet at age 10. After graduating in 2006 from Blue Valley West High School in Overland Park, Kan., he earned dual bachelor degrees in trumpet performance and music composition from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) in 2011. He earned a master’s degree in trumpet performance in 2013 from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. His notable teachers are Keith Benjamin of UMKC and Charlie Geyer and Barbara Butler of Rice University. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” Larios was principal cornet with the Fountain City Brass Band in Kansas City, Mo., and second trumpet in the Charleston Symphony in South Carolina. He also performed with the Spoleto Festival USA in 2014-15 in Charleston, S.C., the Aspen Music Festival in Colorado in 2014, and the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, Colo., in 2012.

### RETIREMENT



**Clarinetist Master Gunnery Sgt. Elizabeth Matera** retired on June 30 after 26 years of service in the Marine Band. Matera joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in October 1990. She began her musical instruction at age 10. After graduating in 1984 from Bettendorf High School in Bettendorf, Iowa, she attended the University of Iowa in Iowa City, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in music education in 1988 and studied with Maurita Murphy Mead. She earned master’s (1996) and doctoral (2002) degrees in music performance from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., under the instruction of Sidney Forrest. Prior to joining the band, she performed in the Cedar Rapids Symphony in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the Quad City Symphony in Davenport, Iowa, and taught instrumental music.

### WHITE HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS



Recent appearances by “The President’s Own” supporting the White House include:

- Dinner in Honor of President Moon Jae-in of the Republic of Korea  
*String ensemble with piano*
- Independence Day Celebration  
*Marine Band; Free Country*
- American Made Products Showcase and Roundtable  
*Marine Jazz Combo; solo piano*
- Senators Luncheon  
*Solo piano*

### MARINE BAND CONTACT INFORMATION

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Editor: Gunnery Sgt. Brian Rust

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